

Palkulam Surplus Water Channel.

119. MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): With reference to the answer to question No. 70 (c), asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 5th November 1925, will the Government be pleased to state whether they propose to restore the original surplus water channel from Palkulam, and, if so, why it has been so long delayed?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The matter has not been finally decided. The second part of the question does not, therefore, arise.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know how long the matter has been pending before the Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): As a result of an interpellation by Mr. S. Subrahmanya Karayalar, the question was seriously taken up for consideration on the 6th November 1926, and thereafter the question has been under correspondence.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the Government aware that this original surplus channel was closed before 1098?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I have no information.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Have not the Government received complaints regarding the closing up of this surplus channel in 1098?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That question also I am unable to answer now.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Am I to understand that the matter was taken up for consideration only when the Government received Mr. Karayalar's interpellation in 1925?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I have already stated that the question was seriously taken up for consideration in November 1925 and that it is still under correspondence.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the Government aware that the Chief Engineer was of opinion that the closing up of this channel and the opening up of another deviation channel were absolutely of no use?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes, he has reported like that. That point also is under consideration.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know when the Government will be pleased to decide the matter finally?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The matter is actively under consideration at present. I cannot say when it will be disposed of.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether the opening of the deviation channel, referred to in question No. 70 (c) was authorised by the Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether, while authorising the opening of the deviation channel, they gave any instruction as to its dimensions?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That is a matter of detail. I am unable to give any definite answer now.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether, while authorising the opening of the deviation channel, the Government also authorised the closing up of the old surplus channel?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I think the authorisation to close the old surplus channel must have gone with the authorisation to open the deviation channel. I have no definite information now. That will have to be ascertained from the Excise Commissioner and from the records.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Are the Government aware that the place that was occupied by the surplus channel is now occupied by salt pans?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Did the Government authorise the conversion of these places into salt pans?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I cannot say that now.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know whether license was given for the manufacture of salt in these places?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): That will have to be ascertained from the Excise Commissioner. I have no definite information now.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): Was there any agreement entered into with the licensee permitting him to manufacture salt here?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): This question forms a part of the previous question and has been answered.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): In answer to part (c) of question No. 70 asked on the 5th November 1925 the Government stated that the matter is under consideration and will be disposed of as early as possible. Now will the Government dispose of the matter?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The matter is even now under the consideration of the Government and they hope to arrive at a decision soon.

Purchase of Motor Cars for the use of Dewans.

120. **MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI** (*Kalkulam cum Vilavankod*): Will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points relating to the purchase of motor cars for the use of each of the Dewans of Travancore from 1089 up to the end of 1101:—

(a) the number, names and prices of the cars purchased during the time of each Dewan;